

Message Text

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ACTION IGA-01

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PASS AID/W

E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, ET

SUBJ: EGA INSPECTION OF DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAM

REF: STATE 227544

FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED PER REFTEL:

1. FRANCO-ETHIOPIAN RAILROAD (FERR) REPORT -- THIS REPORT WAS FORMALLY REQUESTED BY CHARGE' ON 8/29/74 AND ACKNOWLEDGED BY FERR ON 9/4/74. SUBSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE REQUIREMENT WITH BOTH THE DIRECTOR AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FERR. SOME RESEARCH TIME HAS BEEN INVOLVED; HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THE REPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY. FYI: THE SUBJECT OF GOE GRAIN EXPORTS AND A WIDE VARIETY OF CHARGES RELATED TO MISUSE OF RELIEF GOODS, PROFITEERING, BRIBERY, ETC., HAVE BEEN UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR SOME TIME BY A SPECIAL GOE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY ON THE DROUGHT. WE WERE ADVISED ON 10/11/74 THAT THE COMMISSION IS NOW SAID TO BE ALMOST READY TO ISSUE A REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS. A SUMMARY WILL BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. QUARANTINE BRIBERY REPORT -- IN THAT DETAILS OF THIS INCIDENT TOLD TO THE IGA WERE FULLY REPORTED TO THE APPROPRIATE GOE AUTHORITIES AT THE TIME, NO FURTHER SPECIFIC ACTION HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN. AS NOTED 1., ABOVE, THE SPECIAL GOE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY HAS UNDERTAKEN A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BROAD INVESTIGATION OF SUCH CHARGES AND IS EXPECTED TO

REPORT SHORTLY. IN THE GENERAL CASE OF FUMIGATION REQUIREMENTS/PROCEDURES, THE AID MISSION HAS TAKEN STEPS TO INSURE THAT THE PROCEDURES IN FORCE SINCE 1970 FOR FFW SHIPMENTS ARE STRICTLY ADHERED TO IN THE CASE OF ALL US GRAIN SHIPMENT ARRIVALS. THESE PROCEDURES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. IF FUMIGATION IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE QUARANTINE AGENT, THE USG MUST BE PROVIDED WITH A FULL WRITTEN STATEMENT BY HIM WITH RESPECT TO THE EXTENT AND TYPE OF FUMIGATION REQUIRED.

B. THE USAID MUST BE PROVIDED WITH A SAMPLE OF THE QUARANTINE AGENT'S SAMPLE. THIS SAMPLE IS FORWARDED TO AID/W FOR USDA ANALYSIS.

C. THE SUBSTANCE OF THE QUARANTINE OFFICER'S REPORT IS FORWARDED TO AID/W BY AIRGRAM OR CABLE AS INDICATED.

D. A PUBLIC HEALTH CERTIFICATE IS OBTAINED FROM THE GOE STATION CONCERNED ATTESTING TO THE FACT THAT IF THE GRAIN IS CONTAMINATED, IT IS FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION ONCE FUMIGATED.

E. WHEN ITEMS A. AND D. ABOVE HAVE BEEN MET, THE USAID AUTHORIZES FUMIGATION AS MAY BE REQUIRED. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT PRESENT GOE POLICIES AND ADHERENCE TO THESE PROCEDURES WILL REDUCE OR EFFECTIVELY PRECLUDE THE TYPE OF INCIDENT/DELAY REPORTED TO IGA.

3. ISOLATED GRAIN SIGHTING -- USG GRAIN NOTICED BY IGA BELOW MASSAWA WAS DETERMINED TO HAVE BEEN AT SUB-DISTRIBUTION POINT KNOWN AS MERSA FATIMA. THIS GRAIN WAS BROUGHT BY BOAT FROM MASSAWA TO THAT LOCATION FOR TRANSFER TO TRUCKS FOR TRANSPORT TO END-USE POINTS SOUTH OF THAT POINT. AT TIME OF SIGHTING, GRAIN WAS BEING LOADED FROM STOCKS AT QUAY ON TRUCKS FOR THIS DISTRIBUTION. USAID HAS RECEIVED OFFICIAL R/R COMMISSION REPORTS OF THIS DISTRIBUTION AND ACCOUNTING.

4. REPORT ON BLANKETS -- AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON USG SUPPLIED BLANKETS HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO AID/W BY POUCH ON 8 OCTOBER. BLANKETS REFERRED TO BY IGA IN EXIT MEETING WERE CONTRIBUTED BY OTHER DONORS AND WERE NOT FROM USG. USAID HAS REQUESTED GOE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL END-USE DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION ON BLANKETS CONTRIBUTED BY USG. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5. KAGNEW TRUCKS -- PER AID ENGINEER, THE CONDITION OF THE VEHICLES REMOVED FROM THE PRESIDENT GARFIELD IS SATISFACTORY AT THE PRESENT TIME, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE OPERATING OUT OF MEKELLE, TIGRE PROVINCE. THESE TRUCKS ARE BEING OPERATED ON ROADS UNFIT FOR HEAVY TRANSPORT. AS A RESULT, THESE HAVE EXPERIENCED AN UNUSUAL DEGREE OF DOWN-TIME. USAID IS PRESENTLY INSPECTING THESE

VEHICLES AND IN ADDITION TO PRIOR RECOMMENDATIONS ALREADY
MADE TO GOE WILL PASS THIS INFORMATION TO GOE FOR ACTION.
HOWEVER, BASED ON THE CONDITION OF USE, THESE VEHICLES HAVE
PERFORMED WELL AND HAVE BEEN MEETING THE ESSENTIAL GRAIN
TRANSPORT REQUIREMENT TO VILLAGES IN THE TIGRE AREA AT THE
CRITICAL TIME REQUIRED. IT IS CLEAR THAT, WITHOUT THESE
VEHICLES, DELIVERY PROBABLY COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE.
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